



The Navy OGC Summer Law Clerk Experience

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What Law Clerks said

"Attorneys treated me as a peer and included me in social events."

"I formed meaningful relationships with OGC attorneys and the other law clerks."

"I was given significant responsibility to research and analyze areas of law that had considerable impact on my office."

"The issues I covered gave me a great appreciation of the work Navy OGC attorneys perform."

Where they went

U.S. Supreme Court
USNS Mendonca
U.S. Naval Academy
Quantico Marine Base
U.S. Capitol Building

The Navy OGC Summer Law Clerk Program

The Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel consists of more than 650 attorneys who provide world-class legal support in offices that cover the globe! The only thing broader than the geographical area in which our offices are located is the range of issues we advise clients on. Navy OGC attorney practice includes core areas of acquisition law, fiscal law, litigation, environmental law, real property law, labor and employment law, intellectual property, patent law, Freedom of Information Act, Privacy Act, and construction law. Our Central Office is located in the Pentagon and serves as the base for our summer law clerk program.

Navy OGC attorneys take part in on-campus interviews and resume collections each fall, meeting second year law students who are interested in serving our Nation and our Navy in a fast-paced and engaging paid clerkship. About ten clerks are ultimately offered the opportunity to spend at least ten weeks in the Washington, D.C. area; experiencing an introduction to OGC and our Capitol City. The 2009 clerks attended law schools in California, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Washington. Each clerk was assigned to a "host" office where they were assigned challenging work assignments. Their summer training included far more than legal research and analysis; it included an introduction to our Navy – Marine Corps clients and their missions. The clerks traveled to Baltimore (where they visited the USNS Mendonca), Patuxent River, Maryland (where they "flew" an F/A-18 simulator), and Quantico, Virginia (where they navigated an obstacle course while using night vision goggles). Trips closer to home included a trip to the U.S. Supreme Court, a tour of the Capitol, and a ballgame at Nationals Park. Who knew ten weeks could fly by so quickly!

Something for Everyone



Our summer law clerks leave Washington, D.C. with a sense that they learned quite a bit about Navy OGC, our clients, our Nation's Capital, and themselves. They worked on issues that reflected the traditional OGC areas of practice, traveled to and attended meetings with clients, made presentations, drafted motions, and contributed to their offices in ways which very few imagined possible. They navigated the Pentagon, rode the Metro to meetings, and negotiated D.C. to

What Navy OGC seeks

Law school students with diverse experiences and backgrounds

Second year students who are in the top third of their class

Students with rich academic records

We value the experience that comes from Law Review, Law Journal and Moot Court

Students with a keen desire to serve our Nation and our Navy-Marine Corps team

Contact Us

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Get more info at

<http://www.ogc.navy.mil>



visit museums and enjoyed a full schedule. They attended a town hall meeting with the Secretary of Defense, toured the cargo decks and engine room of a merchant vessel, visited the Presidential Helicopter Squadron, and took part in hand-to-hand combat training.

The clerks agreed that the balance of work, training, and social events kept them engaged, excited, and entertained. They found their mentors and host offices to be collegial and welcoming, and their assignments to be interesting and challenging. They were inspired by a spirit of selfless public service and proud to be part of an organization that serves so many in a myriad of ways.

Summer Assignments



The clerks were placed in host offices that support unique clients and missions. One clerk, preparing for the patent bar, researched and prepared notes for a trade secret case and gained a valuable insight into practice before the USPTO. The clerk assigned to the Navy Litigation Office assisted OGC attorneys working with Department of Justice attorneys on critically important litigation. Others played a role in resolving protests, preparing dispositive motions in employment law litigation, and providing advice on ethics and fiscal issues.

Most of the summer law clerks were assigned to offices in the Pentagon and nearby Washington Navy Yard, but one worked at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station and another worked in nearby Arlington, Virginia. The assignments were typical of the summer program. The clerks spend enough time to feel connected to their office, while feeling a sense of pride as a summer law clerk "class" as well.

Navy OGC interviews and collects resumes from second-year law school students who are in the top third of their respective classes. We are particularly interested in students who distinguish themselves as members of law review, law journal, or moot court. Summer clerks are paid and may receive an offer of employment shortly after they return to school for their final year of study.